

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 11 through pg. 15, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

-- As shown in FIG. 2, an illumination apparatus according to a first embodiment of the present invention is constituted by an LED 1 as a small-plane light source, a light leading rod 10 as a columnar light leading member, an illumination lens 11 as a an angle position conversion member or a pupil formation member, and a light modulation element 12. Here, when the light leading rod 10 is arranged in such a manner that an outgoing radiation end surface of the light leading rod 10 is placed at a front focal position of the illumination lens 11, an optical pupil is formed in the vicinity of a focal position of the illumination lens 11. Therefore, when the light modulation element 12 is arranged at that pupil position, there can be obtained Koehler illumination which is telecentric on an image side with the outgoing radiation end surface of the light leading rod 10 being used as a virtual light source. It is to be noted that the light leading rod 10 is formed of a material of a glass or a resin which is transparent to a wavelength band of an illumination light flux, and constituted by an optical plane which is entirely mirror-finished so as to lead the light by total reflection on a side surface in terms of the efficiency.--

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Please replace the paragraph at page 25, lines 7-12, with the following amended paragraph:

-- By adopting such a structure, when the light modulation element 12 having an aspect which is long in the lateral direction is illuminated, causing the NA to be fall within the allowable NA can increase an area efficiency of an irradiated area, thereby improving the optical efficiency.--